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**CENTRAL REGION YOUTH COUNCIL ON WORKFORCE SERVICES**  
**MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES**  
**Monday, March 15, 2004**  
**3:00 p.m.**

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Presiding: Paul Jackson, Chair

Present: James Andersen, Betty Barker, Joeann Bartlett, Sandra Hemmert, David Melville, Akilah Messado, Gay D. Pinnecoose, Jude Schmid, Peter Smith for Janet Wolf, Sheri VanBibber and Nathan Ward.

Absent: Susan Archibeque, Joy Gingrich, Representative Brent Goodfellow, Don Johnson, Fred Peake, Jacinto Peterson, , Kay Thibodeaux, Lona Walton and Julie Zimmerman.

Excused: Jane Reister Conard, Rich Parks, Stephen Ronnenkamp and Anne Peterson.

Guests: Rebecca Banner, Kent Fitzgerald, Mike Gallegos and David Hansen.

Staff: Karla Aguirre, Rod Barlow, Jane Gardner, Steve Leyba, Diane M. Lovell and Verene Froisland.

**Welcome and Roundtable Introductions**

Paul Jackson called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m. and welcomed all those in attendance. Mr. Jackson gave a special welcome to Steve Leyba, the new Assistant Regional Director for Central Region.

Mr. Jackson then announced that Bo Hall retired from his position as Campus President of the Salt Lake/Tooele Applied Technology College and will no longer be involved with the Central Region Council and Youth Council. Mr. Jackson then acknowledged the wonderful work that Mr. Hall had done as the previous Chair of the Youth Council as well as his contributions to the local education system and the community at large.

Mr. Jackson reported on the Groundhog Job Shadow Day – 35 youth and 11 businesses participated in the event. Mr. Jackson then stated that a suggestion was made that the Youth Council consider sending a letter of appreciation to those 11 businesses. He asked Jude Schmid what her recommendation would be on sending such a letter.

Ms. Schmid responded by stating that since Groundhog Job Shadow Day is an activity that the Youth EmployAbility Services (YES) Program plans to carry out annually, a letter from the Council might encourage businesses to participate in the future.

Mr. Jackson then asked Diane Lovell to work with Ms. Schmid to draft and sent out a letter of appreciation.

**Approval of January 26, 2004 Minutes**

David Melville moved to approve the minutes of Monday, January 26, 2004. Sandra Hemmert seconded the motion. All voted “Aye”. The motion passed.

### **Youth Initiatives & Leadership Grants**

Ms. Lovell distributed a handout from Jane Broadhead, DWS State Youth Programs Manager. The handout summarized the Leadership Development/Citizenship Project proposal requirements. Ms. Lovell stated that a total of \$7,000 is available statewide and \$1,000 is available to each region to fund citizenship projects, similar to last year's effort. Project funds must go to existing WIA contract providers, must involve WIA eligible youth and the funds must be expended by June 30, 2004. The due date for proposal submission is April 16<sup>th</sup> and the State Council will approve successful projects on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. In order to meet the State's timeline, Ms. Lovell then asked the Council to review and act on the YES Programs Leadership project as proposed. Ms. Schmid was then asked to summarize the YES Project concept.

Ms. Schmid stated that there is currently an existing leadership program within the YES Program and it is conducted in conjunction with Utah State University's Youth and Families with Promise Program. A group of youth has taken on the responsibility of planning and running several workshops and a citizenship/leadership activity called "Leader Meet" to be held at the E-Center on April 15-17, 2004. Approximately 400 youth throughout the state will have an opportunity to participate in this activity. Ms. Schmid continued by stating that the community service project that the YES Program is involved in is a literacy based project – the youth will be binding books, recording books on tape and putting together a variety of different literacy materials for low-income and disabled in the Salt Lake Valley. Ms. Schmid then stated that available funding for the "Leader Meet" project about \$1,000 below what was anticipated. Therefore, the YES Program is proposing the \$1,000 Citizenship/Leadership grant be used help fund the event.

Mr. Jackson asked how many YES youth are involved with the planning process.

Ms. Schmid responded by stating that there are four youth involved in the planning process and they hope to have 25 youth participate.

Sandra Hemmert asked if the YES Program would be allowed to expend the dollars prior to the State Council approving the expenditure.

Ms. Lovell responded by stating that she would check with Ms. Broadhead but felt that if the Youth Council approves the concept then the State Council would "retroactively" approve the expenditures to support the project.

**Ms. Hemmert moved to approve the proposal as outlined by Jude Schmid subject to a clarification that expenditures can be made prior to the State Council's April 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting and clarification regarding the specific agencies to be involved with the project. Sheri VanBibber seconded the motion. All voted "Aye". The motion passed.**

### **DWS Update and Performance Outcomes**

Karla Aguirre distributed and referred to an update of the performance measures that was included in the packet. She stated that Central Region is currently meeting its outcome measures.

James Anderson asked how many youth are currently enrolled in the Younger Youth Skill Attainment Program measure.

Ms. Aguirre stated that she did not have that information at hand but would make an effort to get the specific enrollment numbers to the Council.

Mr. Anderson stated that if the Council is concerned about DWS achieving and reaching goals, then members should know how many youth are enrolled in each measure.

Ms. Aguirre stated that she would ask Leslie Shortt, DWS Information Specialist to prepare a more detailed report that reflects enrollment numbers by measure.

Mr. Anderson then noted that at the last Youth Council meeting he inquired about the number of students enrolled in college and asked if the enrollment numbers were available.

Ms. Schmid responded by stating that she did an informal count – there were 58 youth enrolled in college and there were 5 that were co-enrolled in high school and college classes.

Mr. Anderson then stated that he feels it is critical that the detailed information come to every meeting.

Mr. Jackson asked if it would be possible to get those enrollment numbers and include them with the minutes.

Ms. Aguirre responded in the affirmative and then noted that she can run those detailed reports on a regular basis.

Ms. Hemmert asked how much impact Central Region has on the statewide percentages.

Ms. Aguirre responded by stating that Central Region constitutes about 45% of the state's enrollment. Ms. Aguirre then introduced Rebecca Banner as a new Program Specialist in Central Region who will be the new contact person for the YES Program and will be attending the Youth Council meetings.

### **Salt Lake/Tooele County Applied Technology College**

David Hansen, Director of Planning, Marketing & Public Relations for the Salt Lake/Tooele County Applied Technology College (SL/T ATC) gave an overview of the SL/T ATC. The SL/T ATC is one of nine campuses is the newest of nine statewide campuses and has experienced growth and expansion. When the SL/T ATC was created, its mandate was to serve students and adults and provide them with short-term training that prepares them to meet the needs of Utah businesses. The SL/T ATC works with businesses to identify their needs, build programs that youth and adults can enroll in and get the training they need to be successful.

Mr. Hansen continued by stating that the SL/T ATC currently has six major divisions offering programs in: Business Technologies, Health Care Technologies, Information Technologies, Transportation Technologies, Public Safety and Corporate Training. Also, the ATC has a contract with DWS to conduct career assessments. A number of courses are also offered in a bilingual format. He shared the current catalogue and material about other special programs offered at the ATC.

Ms. Lovell asked what the primary difference was between the educational approach used by the ATC's as compared to the community colleges.

Mr. Hansen responded by first stating that relations have not always been the best between the ATC and the local community college – however, both institutions have made a real firm commitment to resolve differences and to enhance interagency collaboration. Mr. Hansen then

stated that the differences are the community college is a more traditional semester based program and the ATC's operate under an open entry/open exit competency-based system that allows students to start programs at any time and compete courses at their own pace. Instead of giving grades, competencies are assessed. When a person has mastered the necessary competencies they are awarded a certificate.

After responding to a few more comments, Mr. Hansen concluded his presentation and asked members to contact him with questions and requests for more information.

### **Intensive Community Aftercare Program**

Mr. Melville circulated the latest grant progress reports to give the Council an idea of the population and the numbers that the Intensive Community Aftercare Program (ICAP) serves. Locations are in Salt Lake, Ogden and Utah County. ICAP works with youth after they have been released from secure facilities. Mr. Melville then stated that ICAP works with the state's most chronic and violent juvenile offenders. The average rate of convictions of for the target population is 10 misdemeanors and 5 felonies. It is a challenge to reintegrate these youth that are primarily young men, back into the community after they are released from secure care. The average stay in secure care is between 9-12 months.

Mr. Melville continued by stating that ICAP is a short-term 90-day program that tries to impact the youth in a positive way by addressing competency development, accountability on the youth's part and community safety. Mr. Melville is currently working towards providing jobs that will help youth become successful in a career and on a long-term basis. Since moving into the new community placement program, there have been no "run aways" from the program. Some youth, however, have re-offended after they have left the program and moved into their permanent placement. Once they commit that next crime, after already having been through a youth corrections secure facility, they are then considered adults.

Mr. Melville then identified ICAP's goals which are to; make sure the youth are drug free, have a job or are in school or vocational program, and that the youth have all the necessary identification and paperwork they need to live a normal life. It is our hope that the youth learn at a young age that they can gain some skills that will help them for the rest of their lives. Mr. Melville concluded by stating that ICAP's numbers continually improve – fewer children are being returned to the secure facilities and fewer children are penetrating the adult system.

A brief question and answer period followed Mr. Melville's presentation.

### **Youth Council Annual Goals & Strategic Planning**

Mr. Jackson spoke concerning the Central Region Council Annual Retreat. This year the retreat is scheduled for Thursday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> from 7:30 a.m. to 12:40 p.m. at the Matheson Courthouse. All Youth Council members are invited to attend. A portion of the retreat will be set-aside for goal setting and to develop plans for the coming year. Mr. Jackson referred to Pages 9-10 in the packet wherein the Youth Council's current objectives and goals were outlined. In preparation for the retreat, Chairman Jackson asked the Council to take to discuss the role and purpose of the Council as well as its goals and objectives.

The Chair suggested the Council consider questions such as "What crucial challenges will mark our future?" and "What are the key initiatives and issues facing the youth?" The Youth Council needs to assume more responsibility then it has in the past as "we think to the future. We need to have one heart, vision and direction – realizing that can be challenging at times."

Mr. Jackson then stated that he really appreciates the Council because of the interaction, the dynamics, the questions and the thought process. Mr. Jackson then referred to the Youth Council's mission statement:

*The mission of the Central Region Youth Council is to share information, facilitate and provide direction for organizations that prepare eligible youth for successful transition into the workforce.*

Mr. Jackson asked the Council members if the mission statement excited them, if it motivated them and if it provided the guiding principles that not only give direction and vision, but also reflected the wording to build the necessary bridges and links with all the youth serving partners in our community?

Ms. Hemmert stated that she feels that the Youth Council does not provide direction for the members. She felt the Council should be a place where efforts are combined to best meet the needs of young people being served.

Mr. Jackson stated that perhaps the wording should be changed to "*provide direction to coordinate efforts*" for organizations.....

Mr. Jackson then referred to the current objectives of the Council:

- *Oversee YES Program – Identify and monitor success measures.*
- *Identify Services Needed and Employment Opportunities – Document available services and service gaps.*
- *Develop Resources - Increase funding and resources.*
- *Ensure Liaison with Regional Council – Collaborate with Central Region Council to ensure successful support of the youth program.*

Mr. Jackson asked the members if they felt there were any service gaps.

Betty Barker stated that part of her frustration with the Council is that there are some needs that the Jordan School District has that she thought would be discussed as a group for this region. When she first became a member she thought the Council would be collaborating and sharing information about the member agencies resources and needs so that the populations of the respective agencies could be better served. Ms. Barker then stated that from her point of view, that has not been happening.

Peter Smith stated that the Youth Council could be an amazing tool of collaboration and providing amazing services to the youth that live in the region. It's sad that. "We don't talk more about the population and their needs and how we are meeting them and whether we can partner with other agencies."

Mr. Jackson then referred to the "*Increase funding and resources*" objective, stating that, "We need to figure out how to leverage the other resources so that we can meet a bigger need. How does the Council make that happen?"

Ms. Hemmert stated that she does not like to go for resources until she has a real clear picture of the resources that exist. Almost any grant requires a collaborative effort. She feels the Council needs to understand the funding patterns and how the various funds can be leveraged.

Ms. Barker stated that she feels like so much of the funding issues are decided before Council members arrive at the meetings. She went on to say that available funding and how it should be allocated should be discussed at the Youth Council meeting.

Mr. Jackson responded by stating that the Youth Council has single contract vendor and all money goes to the vendor because it is required and that decision was decided several years ago.

Ms. Barker stated that in her opinion, it was not presented to the Council in that way.

Mr. Jackson stated that Ms. Barker's point is well taken. Perhaps the language should be changed from "Develop Resources" to something like "*Leverage regional resources*".

Mr. Jackson then referred to the next objective – *Collaborate with Central Region Council to ensure successful support of the youth program*. He indicated that he would assume that stewardship. He has already informed the Regional Council Executive Committee that he wants to make sure that there is more of a dialogue between the Youth Council and the Central Region Council.

Mr. Smith stated that of the four objectives mentioned, we seem to spend a large amount of the time as a Council on the first objective – *Oversee YES Program*. He stated that he knows that is a very important objective; however, he sees the other three objectives as being equally relevant to serving the needs of the youth of the region. Mr. Smith shared that he is passionate about working with youth and that the ultimate purpose of having the Council come together is to provide services to youth on a regional level. He next suggested that he would like to see more of the time that the Youth Council's time spent on productively developing resources and identifying service needs rather than having a discussion about the service that is being provided by the current vendor - which is a good service.

Mr. Jackson iterated that he agreed with Mr. Smith.

Mr. Melville stated that he too agrees – the YES Program does a great job but the Council should spend time identifying needs where services can be expanded to populations that are currently underserved.

Mr. Jackson again stated that its time for the Council to develop new and/or revised goals for the upcoming fiscal year beginning in July and that the discussion regarding specific objectives will be continued during the Retreat on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Ms. Hemmert stated that it sounds apparent to her that one of those goals is to clearly identify available services and to collaborate across agencies.

Mr. Jackson agreed with Ms. Hemmert. He then stated that the Council would continue to have presentations by programs and businesses because they are helpful. Mr. Jackson concluded the discussion by expressing his appreciation to the Council for their comments and suggestions.

### **May 17 Agenda Items and Meeting Calendar**

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any suggestions for the May 17<sup>th</sup> agenda.

Sheri VanBibber stated that she would like to know each Council member's organizational representation.

Mr. Jackson responded by stating that he would incorporate Ms. VanBibber's suggestion into the agenda for May 17<sup>th</sup>. Ms. VanBibber was also asked to provide a presentation to the Council on the Boys & Girls Club.

#### **Other Business**

Mike Gallegos stated that the Department of Labor (DOL) is offering incentives for Workforce Investment Boards to seek funding and possibly waivers from the DOL, in having Workforce Services work more collaboratively with faith-based and community-based organizations to help hard-to-serve populations such as homeless youth. He then suggested that the Youth Council and the Central Region Council look into this to see if it would be worth having DWS seek more information and perhaps fill some of the service gaps that exist.

#### **New Business**

There was no new business.

#### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.